(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau



) CORTE BUILDER IN BURNE HAR BOUN COM BURNE HE IN BURNE HUBE BUILD BUILD BUILD BUILD BUILD BUILD HAR KOND HUBE

(43) International Publication Date 29 April 2004 (29.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/035365 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷:

B61B

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/032703

- (22) International Filing Date: 16 October 2003 (16.10.2003)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 60/418,795

16 October 2002 (16.10.2002) US

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TRANS-PORT SYSTEMS, INC. [US/US]; 4134 Gulf of Mexico Dr., Suite 211, Longboat Key, FL 34228 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): AUSTIN, Robert [US/US]; 533 S. Polk Drive, Sarasota, FL 34236 (US).
- (74) Agent: MINNS, Michael H.; HAHN LOESER & PARKS LLP, Twin Oaks Estate, 1225 West Market Street, Akron, OH 44313 (US).

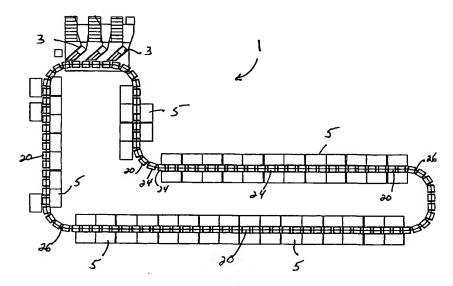
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MONORAIL SORTATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A universal cross belt sorter system (1) consisting of four major components: a monorail track (26), a drive car (20), multiple cross belt cars (24) and system controls. The drive cars (20) pull multiple cross belt cars (24) along the track (26). The cross belt cars (24) are typically loaded with material, which is then discharged into outlets. An outlet may be a chute, a bin, a conveyor, a truck, etc. Sortation systems are typically used to consolidate material according to selected pa-rameters, such as zip code, customer order, to replenish a specific store and many other identifying information. The cross belt cars (24) are loaded with material at induction areas (3). The types or methods of inducting material onto the cross belt cars (24) range from manual to semi-automatic to fully automatic.